

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 5 on page 9 of the specification with the following:

As seen in Figures 2-4, the first preferred embodiment of the present invention includes a flexible sealing membrane generally designated A' adapted to cover and seal the stoma, thus functioning as a stoma covering means. Sealing membrane A' is situated within a recess defined by a cap-like member, generally designated B', which surrounds member A'. Cap member B' functions as a means for defining the recess into which the membrane is received, that is, a recess defining means. Cap member B' is temporarily affixed to the tissue surrounding the stoma by an adhesive means, generally designed C.